

SABIANI

SECRET

43-5-5-71
PIRA-8043

23 JAN 48

From: Rome

Personal Statement of Vincenzo DI MAGGIO & James HARDY, FIS Agent

DGI: 22 Sep. '47 (Source: Through DELILAN, Eval.: B-6)

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODSEXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2006

3-1-5-71

SECRET/CONTROL
(U. S. Officials Only)

and particularly for the Tunisian government, which had sought and obtained the purchase for itself through the French Embassy in Rome.

25. "After the arrest of the well-known French Colonel Auguste ROSTERUCCI, alias Colonel Jacques PADOVANI, who was wanted as a war criminal and captured by me on 18 June 1945 in a cafe on the Viale Giulio Cesare, I went to the D.G.E.R. in Paris (on Boulevard Suchet 14) to report on the operation; I carried orders which had been issued by Captain PLESSIS. At this time, Major Serge PARISOT commissioned me to work on the case of a certain Alfredo PALMIERI (thus indicated to me), a naturalized French citizen, as was shown by the records of the registry office of Marseilles. The person in question, who had fled to Italy, was wanted by the French authorities because he was on the war criminal list issued by the French Ministry of National Defense.
26. "Major PARISOT introduced me to Major BLOCH, Secretary to the Director-General of the D.G.E.R., Colonel RUIBIERE, who explained the moral character of PALMIERI. Among other things, the Colonel said that PALMIERI had been protected by Simon SIBIANI, Mayor of Marseilles, a trusted German element and Chief of the PPF (Partito Popolare Francese, founded by DORIOD), and had become proprietor of several houses of prostitution in Marseilles and Toulon which were reserved almost exclusively for young soldiers.
27. "PALMIERI was the subject of 76 denunciations by husbands of various women who had refused to submit to PALMIERI's will and work in these houses. The women were subsequently reported to the German authorities as spies, arrested and sent to concentration camps in Germany from which they have not returned.
28. "Major BLOCH added that PALMIERI had been in contact with the above-mentioned Colonel ROSTERUCCI who was living in Italy during the German occupation of France, and warned me that PALMIERI was undoubtedly protected by various authorities, including the American police. He warned me, furthermore, to be very careful, inasmuch as PALMIERI could endanger my life both because of his own character and by means of his "entourage", which was composed of his unswerving followers. This warning was based on the fact that a shot was fired at me during ROSTERUCCI's arrest by one of his faithful followers (something I did not know and which I discovered after the arrest). The culprit managed to escape in the confusion of the moment.
29. "Then I returned to Rome, I got in touch with certain ex-collaborationists in order to confirm PALMIERI's presence in Italy and to discover his correct address. I was unable to discover his exact address in spite of the help of various agents who, however, did establish the fact that PALMIERI was in the Milan region and enjoyed strong protection.
30. "Having determined that PALMIERI was really living in Italy, I decided it would be opportune to take a second trip to Paris on 8 August 1946 (more than a year later). Provided with proper orders, I went there and again saw Major BLOCH in order to make further decisions in the matter.

SECRET/CONTROL
(U. S. Officials Only)

- 2 -